

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOGADI 01290 050754Z  
ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 DHA-02 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AGRE-00 EB-08  
OMB-01 TRSE-00 /088 W  
-----103782 050822Z /10

R 280400Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5108  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
US MISSION GENEVA 152

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1290

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y F O R T E X T

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAID, SO, SREF  
SUBJECT: REFUGEES IN SOMALIA

1. UN/WFP ADVISOR ALERTED ME JULY 27 TO POSSIBILITY THAT  
SERIOUS REFUGEE PROBLEM MAY BE DEVELOPING IN SOMALI BORDER  
REGIONS AS RESULT OF MILITARY OPERATIONS IN OGADEN. WHILE  
UN HAS NO INFORMATION ON NUMBERS OF ETHIOPIAN REFUGEES  
NOW ARRIVING IN SOMALIA, IT BELIEVES SITUATION MAY GROW  
CRITICAL IN WEEKS AHEAD. HE WISHED BRING SITUATION MY

ATTENTION AND ALERT US TO POSSIBILITY THAT WE MAY BE  
ASKED TO PROVIDE FOOD RELIEF FOR REFUGEE POPULATIONS.

2. LIKE UN, WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ON NUMBERS OF ETHIOPIAN  
REFUGEES ARRIVING IN SOMALIA. BY COINCIDENCE, LOCAL SOMALI  
RED CRESCENT SOCIETY APPEALED TO EMBOFF TODAY FOR US TO  
PROVIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE FOR  
RED CRESCENT RELIEF OPERATIONS IN BORDER AREA (SEPTTEL).  
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DURING CONVERSATION, RED CRESCENT DIRECTOR TOLD EMBOFF  
THAT SOME 20,000 REFUGEES FROM OGADEN ARE NOW IN  
SOUTHERN SOMALI BORDER AREAS. THIS IS ONLY FIGURE  
WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO DATE AND IT IS PARTIAL ONE.

3. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN TOLD THAT HARGEISA AND OTHER  
CITIES IN THE NORTH ARE EXPERIENCING FOOD SHORTAGES

AS A RESULT OF MILITARY OPERATIONS IN OGADEN. SHORTAGES HAVE RESULTED BECAUSE OGADEN WARFARE HAS INTERRUPTED FLOW FROM TRADITIONAL FOOD SOURCES WHICH CROSS FROM ETHIOPIA INTO NORTHERN SOMALIA. SHORTAGES HAVE BEEN COMPOUNDED BECAUSE OF MOVEMENT OF ETHNIC SOMALIS AND REFUGEES FROM HARGEISA REGION INTO SOMALIA. WE HAVE NO INDICATION OF THEIR NUMBERS.

4. SOME FOOD SHORTAGES ARE ALSO APPARENT IN MOGADISCIO AT PRESENT. WE ARE INFORMED THAT MILITARY HAS FIRST CALL ON EXISTING FOOD STORES AND AS RESULT URBAN CONSUMERS ARE FEELING PINCH.

5. SOMALI HARVEST IS EXPECTED TO BE GOOD THIS SEASON EXCEPT FOR MAIZE CROP WHICH IS BELOW EXPECTATIONS. ANY LARGE REFUGEE INFLUX FROM OGADEN WOULD PUT SOMALI GOVERNMENT IN DIFFICULT POSITION. PRESENT FOOD SUPPLIES AND CURRENT HARVEST WOULD BE INSUFFICIENT TO MEET THESE ADDITIONAL NEEDS.

6. WE ARE SEEKING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM UN AND SOMALI GOVERNMENT SOURCES. OUR PURPOSE AT PRESENT IS TO ALERT WASHINGTON AND UNHCR THAT REFUGEE AND FOOD PROBLEM MAY BE DEVELOPING.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, BORDER INCIDENTS, FOOD ASSISTANCE  
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**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MOGADI01290  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** EAID, SREF, PBOR, SO, ET, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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